

**Comelec**  
commissioner's  
son abducted

**McDowell first**  
European to win  
US Open in 40 years

**Brazil advances to World**  
Cup's last 16; Italy held  
to a draw again

**Polls delayed**  
storm alarm  
system

**'Emperor'**  
Bangit sad  
on leaving AFP

By Jocelyn R. Uy

**DOJ affirms decision**  
to sue Sulpicio exec

By Dana Z. Feilinger

ON THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF one of this country's worst sea tragedies, the Department of Justice affirmed its decision to prosecute an executive of Sulpicio Lines Co. for the death of more than 700 passengers and crew members of the MV Princess of the Stars.

DQJ/PH/41 4A



Tuesday, June 23, 2010

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5 sections / Vol. 15 / No. 194

P18

THE MAN THEY CALLED 'EMPEROR' was sad. He felt the 10 years he had invested in the military had gone up in smoke. But his last order to his troops was clear: Do not let anyone divide you. Do not let anyone drag you into politics.

On the beach of a 19-gun salute and with a "March, yes" banner (bearing atop a military truck, Gen. Delino Bangit bids goodbye to the Philippine Army

TOP/PH/41

# Vice mayor in media slay

**Only courts**  
can stop  
sex ed,  
says DepEd

By Philip C. Tobias

UNLESS STOPPED BY THE courts, the Department of Education (DepEd) intends to proceed with the piloting of sex education in public schools this school year, Education Secretary Armin Velasco said yesterday.

Velasco said the program was still in the "researching stage" and that the DepEd had asked three for a dialogue with the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) but the bishops have yet to respond.

"Yes, we will pursue it as long as we have consultations," Velasco said in an interview.

She said the DepEd would only stop the program if the courts decided to issue a temporary restraining order against the teaching of sex education in public schools.

The Catholic political party Ang Kabisapang Pilipino (AKIP) yesterday filed a case with the Quezon City Regional Trial Court to stop the DepEd plan to teach sex education because it supposedly violated the rights of parents to educate their children.

"There are no parents a sign of their complaint but we will follow whatever the decision of the court is. We will obey," Velasco said.

ONLY COURTS CAN



**SOUTH AFRICAN 'TOROTOT'** Two young supporters of Ghana blow vuvuzelas outside the Royal Bafokeng stadium near Rustenburg, South Africa, for the Group D first round 2010 World Cup football match between Ghana and Australia on Saturday.



**Vuvuzelas expected to make**  
a blast in Asia soon

STONEY—IT'S THE WORLD CUP EVIL, because that has led the globe—and now, the vuvuzela is coming to an Asian country next year, courtesy of an Australian retailer.

Japan's Apollonia Toys has enjoyed a

"1,000 percent" rise in the sales of the noisy South African trumpet since the start of the World Cup, where it has provided an ear-splitting soundtrack.

Company director Vaughn de Kromer

YUK/PH/41

**Raps filed**  
against  
Ilocos  
exec, aide

By Cristina Arcandian  
Inquirer Northern Luzon  
Jeffrey M. Tapan  
and Orlando Chong  
Inquirer Mindanao

POLICE ON MONDAY filed murder charges against the newly elected vice mayor of Bacarra, Ilocos Norte, and his aide in connection with the killing of radio commentator Juvencio Agustin last week.

Supt. Eusebio Rayon, head of Task Force Agustin, said Bacarra Vice Mayor-elect Dr. Otilio Wilson, his aide Leonardo Basing and two others were also facing attempted murder charges in connection with the slaying of Agustin's house on May 7.

The two other suspects were identified as Ridelio Acosta and Moynery Buidoso.

The charges were separately filed with the Laming City and Ilocos Norte prosecutor's offices on Monday.

Agustin was one of the three journalists shot dead during a five-day period after the filing of the election-related gun law on June 5.

Norito Babilado was murdered in Dagupan City in Ilocos during on June 10 and broadcast journalist Acosta, "Acosta," Compostela was killed in Marikina, Metro Manila, on June 14.

The killings raised to 110 the number of media workers murdered in the country since President Macapagal-Arroyo assumed office in 2001.

Police are set to file criminal

WIDE WORLD/41

## Noynoy meets with 'Cabinet' at Times Street home

By Gil C. Cabanag and Mike Mervin

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS OF the Cabinet of President-elect Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III yesterday flocked to his residence on Times Street in Quezon

City for a closed-door meeting apparently in preparation for their upcoming work.

Led by designated Executive Secretary Pagsanjan Orlina A. Aquino's visitors included former Finance and Trade Secretary Cesar Purisima, Makati

Business Club executive director Alberto Lim, former Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) executive Kim Heras, former Presidential Security Group head Voltaire Garmita and Aquino's chief of staff Julia Abad.

Purisima is said to be returning

to the Finance department, while Lim is reportedly being considered for the tourism portfolio. Purisima and Lim are among Aquino's campaign donors.

Heras is rumored to be the incoming BIR chief, and Garmita

the next defense secretary.

Abad is said to be the incoming chief of the Presidential Management Staff.

Aquino's sons, Maria Theres "Telly" Cruz, and his political ally—Cesar. Rap. Joseph

NOYNOY/41



DAVID TIGLAO HABITO

OP-ED COLUMNISTS

**Inquirer gets Habito,**  
Tiglao—and more of David

THE INQUIRER IS ADDING TWO new columnists to its popular op-ed pages and is doubling the column frequency of its old favorites.

Recent economist Geline Habito, the economic planning secretary during the last years of the Ramos presidency, is moving his "The Free Lunch" column from the newspaper's Business section to Opinion. His column will now appear every Tuesday, starting today.

Veteran journalist Eusebio "Biko" Tiglao is returning to the opinion page after serving in the Arroyo administration, most recently as Philippine ambassador to Greece.

INQUIRER/41

paper's Business section to Opinion. His column will now appear every Tuesday, starting today.

Veteran journalist Eusebio "Biko" Tiglao is returning to the opinion page after serving in the Arroyo administration, most recently as Philippine ambassador to Greece.

INQUIRER/41

WHY WE'RE LEFT BEHIND

**Local dialects key to global success**

By Philip C. Tobias

(Habitat's view)

TO BE GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE, Filipinos must learn first in their local dialect.

City dwellers may cringe upon hearing the accents of people from the provinces, but experts say that one of the keys to a good education is teaching students early on in their mother tongue, or dialect, instead of in English or in Filipino.

This S. Occampo, an education professor at the University of the Philippines, said that numerous international studies had shown that using Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE)—or teaching young students in their dialect—actually improved their ability to learn English, Filipino, and other subjects later on.

"They learn best when the language used for learning is something they

2008/41



**INCUBING** Grade 1 students of Pagsanjan Elementary School in Quezon City undergo assessment before the formal school opening.

WIDE WORLD/41

















# Thomas talks 'trafficking' with Binay

By Mike Navelos

**10. ADMIRAL**  
Hern Thomas II brought to the attention of Vice President-elect Binay Aquino the country's demand to human trafficking when the two met at the Malacañang Palace on June 15.

"I think all human beings need to be treated with respect and dignity," said Thomas, speaking to reporters shortly after the closed-door meeting with Binay. "Human trafficking is a crime that we must all work to prevent."

Thomas, speaking to reporters shortly after the closed-door meeting with Binay, said the country's demand to human trafficking when the two met at the Malacañang Palace on June 15.

Thomas said the country's demand to human trafficking when the two met at the Malacañang Palace on June 15.

## Passport ad untrue, says DFA

THE DEPARTMENT of Foreign Affairs (DFA) has denied an advertisement in a newspaper all that report President-elect Binay Aquino III is on the department's allegedly unethical electronic passport project.

In a letter to the bureau on Friday, DFA spokesman Eduardo Alano said Binay was "an official receipt by the department of the advertisement to inform the public," adding that the letter was sent last already from the DFA.

The ad, published in the bureau on Thursday, said the electronic system was "an ethical project that was sponsored by the right to privacy of the people of the Philippines."

Alano said that the system is a project that was sponsored by the right to privacy of the people of the Philippines.

Thomas said the country's demand to human trafficking when the two met at the Malacañang Palace on June 15.

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See Flyers for more details.

Per DTI-MCR Permit No. 3367 Series of 2010

# Vice mayor, aide charged in media slay

(From page 3)

charges against the suspect in the killing of Camangyan.

A provincial autopsy report that was made public last week said that the victim had been shot in the chest and back. The report also stated that the victim had been shot in the chest and back. The report also stated that the victim had been shot in the chest and back.

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Regional authorities implicated in the murder of Aquino because of its association with Duterte, the suspected gunman.

**Wakos's car**  
Police officers identified Wakos as the man who shot and killed Aquino, based on the number of the vehicle's license plate.

The man was shot during the May 17 shooting incident in Marikina. Duterte and Wakos were seen together in a van during and after the May 17 shooting.

Investigations have revealed previously alleged mafia presence of Duterte and Duterte's alleged role in the shooting of Aquino.

Makos has been convicted of graft by the Sandiganbayan. The district, which has been ordered by the Court of Appeals, is pending resolution at the Supreme Court.

Makos is a former Duterte's aide and prominent leader. He was shot in the chest and back on May 17.

Aquino stated during the trial that he was shot in the chest and back. He was shot in the chest and back.

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gunman after May 16, police said. "This may have resulted in the death of Aquino," Duterte said.

The incident has been investigated by Duterte's office. Duterte's office has been investigating the incident.

**Talk Force Camangyan**  
In the case, Duterte's aide, Jose Aquino, said that Duterte's office has been investigating the incident.

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## Noynoy meets with 'Cabinet' at Times Street home

(From page 3)

Alonso, Duterte's secretary, and Duterte's aide, Duterte's aide, Duterte's aide.

The meeting started at around 10 p.m. and ended at around 11 p.m.

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## 'Emperor' Bangit sad on leaving AFP

(From page 3)

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### THE DAILY GOSPEL

Matthew 24:14-28

Matthew 24:14-28

Matthew 24:14-28

Matthew 24:14-28

Matthew 24:14-28

Matthew 24:14-28

Matthew 24:14-28

Matthew 24:14-28





Frugality

**P**RESIDENT-ELECT BENIGNO AQUINO III IS STARTING off on the right foot by having a no-frills inauguration that does away with the inaugural parade. He hope the simple bangles) rite will lay the ground for a frugal, strictly administration that will spend the people's money wisely.

With the government facing a budget deficit estimated at nearly P300 billion at the end of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's term, with millions of people going hungry every day, with well-aimed poverty reported by the Social Security in that less than 41 percent of all families, it would be surprising for the new President to splurge tens of millions of pesos of the people's money on his inauguration.

The President-elect, like his predecessor, the late former President Corason Aquino, is a person of simple means. No simple and plain, indeed, is he in his ways that his strict, the gruffness and cheerful him, but to advise him to adopt new styles in such things as clothes and hairdo in proper a more attractive image during the presidential election campaign.

The frugality, the sobriety simplicity of President Noynoy is in stark contrast to the extravagance and insipidness of his predecessor who splurged on millions of pesos in dress and suits, at one time, took nearly 200 people, including more than 100 lawmakers, with him on a private jet, with everything changed to the point, including taxpayers.

We hope, again in contrast to his predecessor who made 77 trips abroad in nine years (his President will limit his foreign travels only to the most important ones). The country has enough Cabinet members and ambassadors who can stand to be diplomatic and trade relations. And when the new President has to travel abroad, we hope he will follow the example of former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore, who had a very small official party and flew on a regular commercial flight in coming to the Philippines instead of a private jet.

We hope that it will not just be the incoming President who will practice frugality and thrift during the six-year Aquino administration. The President should not just set the example but also require all officials, from the Cabinet members down to section chiefs, to spend the people's money wisely.

In view of the huge budget deficit, and because the President-elect has said that he will not run the government by himself, the new administration will be forced to tighten its belt, adopt austerity measures and live within its means. We hope that new beginnings will also be heralded in its efforts to add to the ballooning public debt that the taxpayers will pay.

The doors are half, the budget deficit is increasing, the public officials are going crazy as a profligate Arroyo administration bows out. Indeed, frugality may no longer be a matter of choice for the Aquino administration. It will be a matter of necessity, that it would be a good thing if the new President would set the example of frugality and ask government officials to make sacrifices in the nation's interests on a momentous program of change.

More of the same

**T**HE MORE THINGS CHANGE! IT SEEMS THE MORE THEY stay the same. So it goes with the change "Change Me" has become the mantra of the current crop of the Philippines. The doors are half, the budget deficit is increasing, the public officials are going crazy as a profligate Arroyo administration bows out. Indeed, frugality may no longer be a matter of choice for the Aquino administration. It will be a matter of necessity, that it would be a good thing if the new President would set the example of frugality and ask government officials to make sacrifices in the nation's interests on a momentous program of change.

FOREIGN COMMENT

**THE** BLOG SPOT INDIANAPOLIS, IN A SPENDING bill with 100% increase would cost \$7.7 billion more, higher, costlier and more expensive. That the program to regulate health care reform in public would cost the government the same amount of money to pay back to us. Then the tough new health reform program on costs as a defense measure and an end to the health care industry could get behind the program and health care reform.

And now at least two attempts at a health care reform program in the United States. What a difference a day and a little press make. Perhaps the American people don't simply like to see the cost of health care justify the more expensive.

Understandably, the health administration has decided to its position in the health care industry. But it is not a good idea for a health care industry. Can anybody say "Blogspot?"

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Year of horror

VIEWPOINT

JOHN E. MCCORD

QUEEN ELIZABETH USED A STRONG phrase in 1953, to describe a time of great stress and hardship. The metaphor of her time was that of a "year of horror."

Only one year has been named "Year of Horror" in the Philippines. In one day, 32 people were killed in the Philippines. The metaphor of her time was that of a "year of horror."

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Draw Date **JUL 10**

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# Across the NATION

## Comelec commissioner's son abducted

**By Terro Quiambao, Manila Bureau and Ruffin V. Jolani, Supreme Attorneys**

**IN WHAT COULD BE A "POLITICALLY MOTIVATED" abduction, unidentified men took the son of Election Commissioner Elias Vasquez in Marikina City on Sunday night purportedly to force the official "to do certain things."**

Nasidren, "Mike" Vasquez, 23, had just walked out of a mosque near his home in Marikina. Encountering at around 9:30 p.m. when he was seized, Jose Leonardo Malis, Marikina police chief, said Mike, however, maintained that nobody witnessed the abduction and police in-

vestigations were still underway. "This is probably politically motivated. It's aimed to pressure the commission to do certain things. We have to make sure that that's all that is," James Amador, Commission on Elections (Comelec) spokesman, said, in a press briefing in Marikina Monday.

In Baguio City, Malabak the filipino, chair of Islamic Movement on National Defense for Good Governance and the Muslim Multi-Agency Movement for Peace and Development, said the kidnapping was "thought about by politics."

Chief Supt. Norberto Lasing, police director for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, said the group behind the abduction had yet to be identified, but he said the victim's father received a phone call just two hours after the abduction.

The unidentified party demanded the "satisfaction of election results in the areas of Marikina, Marikina, Marikina and

Makini in exchange for the release of the younger Vasquez," Lasing said.

The abduction already made contact with the Vasquez family and allowed their captives to speak to his father, Amador said. The younger Vasquez was in relatively good condition and was wearing a light-colored shirt while in captivity, he added.

"We already have proof of it and the commissioner's son is in good condition. We're looking for the kidnappers and very commensurate," Amador said.

Commissioner Vasquez stayed at the Comelec office in Intramuros, Manila, yesterday and

got in touch with officials of the National Bureau of Investigation to carefully monitor the situation, he said.

"Right now, we're monitoring what they need, what they want. The policy is to negotiate. I don't think there's any reason to assume that that has changed. We have to get a lot of help from the police," Lasing said.

"We're coordinating with several law enforcement agencies. We're looking only hard for the safe return of the younger Vasquez. That's our priority right now," he said.

According to Lasing, a crisis management committee headed by Lasing and the

Interacted. Ading has been created to deal with the abduction.

Members of the kidnapping group are still active and security agencies will help look for them in the second phase.

"The next, we will focus on the captured demand of the group who took the victim," Lasing said.

Amador said the Comelec did not intend to provide security for family members of its officials "unless there is a threat."

"That's one thing we're talking about. They will be talking to the presence of a credible threat," he said.

## Boracay continues to boom

**EXILED CITY-BORACAY** is booming despite the global economic downturn, recording a 12-percent increase in tourist arrivals the first five months.

"We are expecting a good year despite the global crisis," said mayor mayor Antonio Aguilar-Cruz, former president of the Boracay Foundation, Inc., a group of local and business interests on the island.

And said on Monday that the month-long political turmoil and violence in Thailand could have continued to the increased number of tourists on the island.

Tourist arrivals reached 524,844 from January to May 22, according to data from the 27,364 jobs added during the same period last year and the 330,294 in 2009, the tourism office of Malay town in Aklan said.

The highest number was recorded in May at 132,349, higher than the 92,833 for the same month in 2009 and 91,731 in 2008.

From January to May this year, Boracay's income from tourism reached P6,562,642, according to the provincial tourism office.

Revenue from the island's second, 90 percent of the revenue (P15,445) while domestic tourists reached 252,609. A total of 12,269 overseas Filipinos came to the island from January to May.

After Amos completed the bulk among foreign tourists led by South Koreans (37,651), the United States (17,033) and Taiwan (15,176). Mayor R. Aguilar Jr., Inspector Vasquez.



**MANILA** Filipino many tourists like to fly from the Manila-Cebu International Airport. The center of the plane is the 11th floor of the airport, the 11th floor.

## Key bridge in north Luzon restored, reopened

**MANILA** The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) on top of the bridge in the north Luzon area of the Philippines.

After a year of the ongoing reconstruction, the bridge was reopened to traffic on Monday.

President Benigno Aquino III said the bridge's reopening is a sign of the progress of the government's infrastructure program.

DPWH said the bridge was damaged by a typhoon in 2009 and the reconstruction project was completed on June 15, 2010.

The bridge is a key link in the north Luzon area and is expected to boost the local economy.

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## Paraplegic defies odds, writes sequel to her first book

**By Phyllis M. Lippman, Manila Bureau**

**LA TRINIDAD, JAMAICA**—An author who is a paraplegic, she wrote her first book, "The Paraplegic's Daughter," in 2001. She is now writing her second book, "The Paraplegic's Daughter II."

Instead of being told that she was too old to write, she wrote her first book, "The Paraplegic's Daughter," in 2001. She is now writing her second book, "The Paraplegic's Daughter II."

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the 8th day, on Feb. 10, 1995.

**Accidental fall**

While her composition was on for an early morning session at the 10th day, she decided to take a walk, passing through a field of corn, and she fell.

After the fall, she was taken to a hospital and she was diagnosed with a spinal cord injury.

"I was surprised, I didn't know I was in a wheelchair," she said.

"The next thing I knew, I was lying on the ground, and I was in a wheelchair," she said.

She said she was told that she was too old to write, she wrote her first book, "The Paraplegic's Daughter," in 2001. She is now writing her second book, "The Paraplegic's Daughter II."

and she "never was in a wheelchair," she said.

**Vegetable trading**

Working as a food vendor on weekends and through the week, she was able to support her family.

She said she was able to support her family by selling vegetables.

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**PEOPLE**

## NEWSBRIEFS

**CRIME**

**Police chief tackled**

The PHILIPPINE police director tackled the Manila City chief of police in front of a police station on Monday.

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# Ex-defense chief elected Colombia president



SANTOS giving his victory speech

**BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA**—A 58-year-old ex-armed forces commander with a dark, weathered face and a slight smile, Juan Manuel Santos was elected Colombia's president by the largest margin in modern history.

Just 10 minutes before got 58 percent of the vote in Sunday's runoff for a ringing endorsement of his promise to continue the 20-year-faceted security policies of outgoing conservative President Álvaro Uribe that he helped craft.

Former two-time Bogotá Mayor Antonio Molano, a senatorial candidate seeking a third government term, said he saw Santos as the best candidate for the nation's future.

Uribe, who served 28 percent in an election runoff by his voters.

Re-elected by a wide margin and three children during a victory speech to 15,000 supporters in Bogotá on Tuesday, Santos launched his run in 2006-2009.

"I've been able to do it because we have been meeting on the shoulder of giants," said Santos, the grandchild of a prominent lawyer and a judge of the Supreme Court. "This is a great year for Colombia."

More than 30 percent of voters turned government ballots on Sunday, but ruling conservatives with the Conservative Party's endorsement that Santos represents—only all the votes of the May 30 first round—elected him and Uribe's election to stand in opposition.

Santos ran an anti-corruption campaign that many Colombians credit with ending the long-standing military dictatorship.

But after outperforming expectations in the presidential campaign, he stumbled in a series of polls that had Colombia questioning his ability to run a country still mired in a half-century-old conflict.

Santos' narrow victory was a surprise to many who had expected him to lose. He had lost the first round of the election to Uribe, but he won the runoff by a large margin.

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use the 2008 vote, but Santos was not a presidential candidate in 2008. He was a senator and a member of the House of Representatives. He was a member of the House of Representatives. He was a member of the House of Representatives.

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## Proposed kill quotas for whales called too high

**WASH., D.C.**—The International Whaling Commission started a key meeting on Monday to debate such quotas which would require a minimum of 100 whales to be killed each year. The commission will set the quotas for the 2011-2012 season.

The 60-nation body will debate the proposal, put forward by the IWC's chairman, in an attempt to break a 24-year deadlock that has nearly wrecked the global whaling regime.

Despite a 1986 moratorium on commercial whaling, nations like Japan, Norway and Iceland have found the way to kill off the whales, more than 1,200 in the 2008-2009 season alone. The body has called for a moratorium on whaling through 2020 for the first time.

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The IWC's new scientific committee is set to say that these numbers are not sustainable, committee members said.

But a formula based on estimates of population levels, scientists calculated that the proposed quotas were too high for the North Pacific humpback whales, and that the quotas were too high for the North Atlantic humpback whales.

Only for the central North Pacific humpback whales were the quotas acceptable, said committee members.

"Science has been indicating that the quotas are not sustainable," said Scott Baker, a marine biologist at Oregon State University and a committee member since 1994.

Like Japan's kill quota for the North Pacific humpback whales, the quotas are not sustainable, said committee members.

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PEOPLE dance as they celebrate the summer solstice shortly after 4:30 a.m. at the Stonehenge monument in England, early June 21.

## New Agers, neo-pagans see Stonehenge solstice

**SALISBURY, ENGLAND**—Thousands of New Agers and neo-pagans danced and whooped in delight on Monday as a light early morning sun rose above the ancient stone circle at Stonehenge, marking the summer solstice.

About 30,000 people crowded the perimeter of the site on Monday, some standing, some sitting, some lying down, to watch the sun rise over the ancient stone circle.

The event, which drew thousands of New Agers and neo-pagans, was the largest gathering of its kind in the world.

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They aligned the stones with the alignment of the summer and the winter solstices. The site was used as a calendar, a time-keeping device, and a place of worship.

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## Poland faces runoff in poll forced by air crash

**WARSAW**—POLISH VOTE in a July 4 runoff in an election forced by the air crash death of President Lech Kaczyński, putting his conservative twin brother against the ruling liberal coalition.

New election rules from the 2001 constitution required a runoff if no candidate won a majority of 51 percent of the vote in the first round.

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## Chile cardinal refers priest abuse case to the Vatican

**SANTIAGO, CHILE**—THE ARCHBISHOP of Santiago, Cardinal Francisco Antonio Errázuriz, has asked the Vatican to decide the fate of a priest accused of sexual abuse who has been accused by several priests of sexual abuse.

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## Nations rethink drilling in wake of record oil spill in US

**LONDON**—BRITISH HAS DECIDED to suspend drilling in the Gulf of Mexico for a year in the wake of the record oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

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## Stocks rise ...

From page 10

The benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEI) ended the session at 2,357.96—an increase of 21.40 points or 0.91 percent.

Local investors are flocking back into the market after a period of volatility, which has seen strong stock prices in previous days, online broker 40 Capital Securities said in a news article in its blog.

"The sentiment, spurred by US markets' late June recovery, increased management's intent to push the PSEI higher," said the brokerage firm's analyst, Prince Anthony Tang. Another positive development was the strong performance of Asian markets (yesterday).

All seven indices of the PSEI rose on Tuesday, except for the mining and oil sectors. All sectors were led by property stocks as operations that in recent years would remain low for the time being, thereby boosting sales.

A total of P1.4 billion worth of stocks changed hands, comprising 1.8 billion shares. Market breadth was positive, with 77 stocks advancing and 40 declining, while 34 were unchanged.

77 stocks advancing and 40 declining, while 34 were unchanged. *Reuben G. Sison*

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## 'Balut is disaster!'

By Cleo V. Mond

**THE COUNTRY'S PROXIMITY** to China could well be a key to boosting the Philippine economy, according to incoming HSBC Philippines CEO Mark Watkinson.

"Over the next 10 years, the Philippines is a very big opportunity as China becomes larger and larger and there are more

wealthy Chinese. The opportunity is to position us then will be looking for places to invest," said Watkinson, who was invited out to call his assessment on advice to the incoming local administration.

He added that the country should also look into agriculture as another area for growth, noting the abundance of fresh fruits.

"The Chinese will want to get food, and have to eat what?"

Watkinson, who was the HSBC banking

group's chief executive here for three and a half years, will be succeeded by Tony Cripps on Aug. 1. Watkinson will move to Canada to become executive vice president for commercial banking and regional president for Central and Eastern Europe.

Cripps, who's coming from Australia, was in the HSBC branch for Watkinson last week.

"The Philippines has very wonderful advantages that it needs to take as an oppor-



PHILIP WATKINSON

He was joking, of course—outgoing HSBC Philippines CEO Mark Watkinson's way of showing affection for this country

## Sugarhouse introduces new potato breads

Softer, moist texture, great flavor and aroma will keep you coming back for more!

ALBERT INVESTIVE IS A CHILDHOOD MEMORY of a favorite cake to party from Sugarhouse, a bakery that has brought the Philippine baking scene to new heights of delight and satisfaction for sweet-toothed Filipinos.



Sugarhouse introduced the Filipino dessert lover to a scrumptious, rare sophisticated line of baked treats. With one finger, its classic signature pastries such as Cakes and Cream, Black Magic, Chocolate Truffle, Blueberry Cheesecake and the famous French Apple Pie – all of which will remain Sugarhouse specialties.

When it first opened in 1983, it created such a buzz that people were literally making a beeline to its hole-in-the-wall bakery in Makati.



Today, amidst the upcoming pandemics, cake shops and bakeries, Sugarhouse has stood the test of time for over twenty-seven years now, a delicious part of good times and celebrations. With a rich tradition all over the city, Sugarhouse continues to offer its traditional pastries while exploring new trends and developing new products to continue to delight its customers.

Which is why they recently introduced four exciting new breads that are sure to become everyone's choice. Besides the US Potato Shells, Walnut Bread and three types of "pull apart" breads: US Potato Corners, US Potato Cinnamon, and US Potato Cheese de Fais.

**The magic ingredient that makes these delicious breads special is the use of US dehydrated potatoes. Just one bite and you will taste the difference, and keep coming back for more.**

Sugarhouse marketing manager Claire Mosquera and production manager Joe Fajana both shared their excitement over their new products.

"The breads made with dehydrated potatoes had a softer texture and retained fat and water content. They tasted lightly-baked longer, the bread more moist and delicious. What's more, potatoes are very nutritious so using them in our breads added to their nutritional value."

"We noticed too that the dough was easier to manage since it was not sticky, so we did not have to add extra flour. And the potato granules seemed to enhance the sweetness of the dough without having to add more sugar. The sweet aroma of the potato granules also contributed to the breads having a pleasant aroma," they explained.



For customers who have tried the new potato breads at Sugarhouse, it was love at first bite. "The customers always get excited when we have new products. They were particularly intrigued when we said the breads contained potatoes," they noted.

Incorporating US dehydrated potatoes (which in baking applications has been found to benefit bakery operators all over the world. They greatly improve texture and softness, make breads stay moist and fresh longer on the shelf, and impart a delicious flavor and aroma.

Potatoes are, in fact, cholesterol-free, saturated fat-free and sodium-free. Rich in complex carbohydrates, vitamins C and B6, potassium and antioxidants, the potato is the most frequently consumed vegetable in the world.

Be sure to be among the first to experience the delicious potato breads at Sugarhouse locations in Inland: Power Plant, Fort Bonifacio and SP Shopping.

For more information about US dehydrated potatoes, please call Mr. Raj Bhatnagar at 011-8334 or 011-8333, or email [raj@usdehydratedpotatoes.com](mailto:raj@usdehydratedpotatoes.com)



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